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Some twenty variable stars were observed. They do not differ in color from the other stars, and are therefore blue, so they probably have short periods.

The plates used in this discussion were taken by Astronomer CURTIS with the Crossley reflector. The measurements were made at Minnesota, where this discussion was incorporated in a thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. KEVIN BURNS.

MT. HAMILTON, September 26, 1910.

THE DEATH OF MR. JOHN MACDONALD.

The Lick Observatory has suffered loss through the death of the oldest member of its community, Mr. JOHN MACDONALD, who came to Mount Hamilton in 1880, as an employee of the James Lick Trust, when the principal duties of the Trust consisted in blasting off the irregular summit of the mountain, in order to prepare places for the buildings. On June 1, 1888, when the Lick Trust transferred the completed observatory to the government of the University of California, Mr. MACDONALD was appointed engineer, and foreman of the outside workmen. He remained in this capacity to the day of his death, at home, on September 18, 1910.

Mr. MACDONALD's continuous life of more than thirty years on Mount Hamilton thus covered the entire material history of the Lick Observatory. He leaves a wife, who has resided on Mount Hamilton continuously since the year 1885; a daughter Mary, who was the first child born to Lick Observatory people; and a daughter Eileen.

Mr. MACDONALD's affections for the Lick Observatory and all that concerned Mount Hamilton were highly developed. His services were at all times faithful and to the full extent of his ability. If calls were made upon him before or after working hours, on holidays, or at night, in sunshine or in severe storm, he was always willing and ready. Born in Nova Scotia in 1852, he possessed the strong character which we are accustomed to associate with natives of that land. The respect of the observatory community and observatory neighbors he always had. A line from Professor EDWARD S. HOLDEN, the

first director of the observatory, expresses the sentiments of everybody: "We all feel the same about this sterling, faithful man."

W. W. CAMPBELL.

GIFT OF METEORITE TO THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

Regent WILLIAM H. CROCKER has generously presented a meteorite to the Lick Observatory, University of California, which has been mounted suitably in the rotunda of the main building.

It is one of many found at Meteor Crater, six miles south of the Sunshine station of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, Coconino County, Arizona. The weight of the meteorite is 92 kilograms (202 pounds). We are grateful for the gift of this member of the outside universe.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

MEMORIAL TO PROFESSOR KEELER.

A bronze tablet has been placed on the wall of the rotunda of the main building of the observatory in memory of Professor JAMES E. KEELER, astronomer in the Lick Observatory during the years 1888-91 and director of the Lick Observatory during the years 1898-1900. The tablet is a present to the observatory from six of Professor KEELER's personal friends.

W. W. CAMPBELL.